

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 04711 170711Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 HA-05
/109 W

-----124558 181255Z /64

R 170455Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8408
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEHRAN 4711

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, IR, AF
SUBJ: TARAHI INTERVIEW WITH IRANIAN REPORTED

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. WHAT WAS BILLED "EXCLUSIVE" INTERVIEW OF PRIME MINISTER
TARAHI WITH ETTALA'AT REPORTER ALI REZA JAHAN-SHAHI APPEARED
IN ALL MAY 16 EDITIONS THAT NEWS CHAIN. DATE OF INTERVIEW
NOT REVEALED BUT TARAHI RESPONSES CLOSELY FOLLOW HIS EARLIER
EXPRESSED VIEWS AS REPORTED BY EMBASSY KABUL, THOUGH AT
POINTS PERHAPS MORE EXPLICIT. EXCERPTS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST
FOLLOW.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TEHRAN 04711 170711Z

2. REACTING TO INITIAL INTERNATIONAL PRESS REPORTS,
TARAHI SAID "IN NO CASE SHOULD THE NEW AFGHAN REGIME BE
CONSIDERED A COMMUNIST REGIME. WHAT HAPPENED IN AFGHANISTAN
WAS NOT A COUP BUT A NATIONEVOLUTION.. INSPIRED PURELY
BY THE AFGHAN PEOPLES NATIONAL ASPIRATIONS AND LONGINGS".
AS TO IMPLEMENTATION OF COUP, TARAHI SAID, "WE IN AFGHAN
PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAD BEEN PREPARING OURSELVES

FOR THIS FOR A VERY LONG TIME,. OUR MAIN AIM WAS CULTIVATION OF THE SYMPATHIES OF THOSE WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES...".

3. REGARDING FOREIGN RELATIONS IN GENERAL, TARAHI REPEATED ASSERTION THAT AFGHANISTAN WILL PURSUE NON-ALIGNED POLICY AND "FUTURE RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES WOULD IN THE FIRST PLACE DEPEND ON THEIR REACTION AND ATTITUDE TO OUR REVOLUTION AND THEN ON THEIR WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST US IN REALIZING OUR NATIONAL OBJECTIVES". HE ADDED THAT AFGHANISTAN WELCOMES AID FROM ANY COUNTRY PROVIDED THERE ARE NO STRINGS ATTACHED AND SPECIFICALLY REFERRED TO SOVIET ASSISTANCE: "IN OUR FUTURE ECONOMIC TALKS WITH THE SOVIET UNION I SHALL STRESS THIS ESSENTIAL FACT. AFGHANISTAN REFUSED TO BECOME A SATELLITE OF ANY COUNTRY".

4. IN THE REGION "THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GOOD NEIGHBOR RELATIONS. FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION WITH IRAN AS WELL AS WITH OTHER NEIGHBORS SUCH AS THE SOVIET UNION, INDIA, CHINA AND PAKISTAN ARE OF PARTICULAR CONCERN," SAID TO TARAHI. WITH REGARD TO THE PUSHTUN ISSUE TARAHI SAID NEW REGIME BELIEVES "QUESTION MUST BE RESOLVED ACCORDING TO THE WISHES OF THAT POPULATION KEEPING IN MIND HISTORICAL ANTECEDENTS AND ALSO THROUGH PEACEFUL, POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH PAKISTAN".

5. DOMESTICALLY THE NEW GOVERNMENT "WILL PROBABLY AUTHORIZE OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES PARTICIPATION IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 TEHRAN 04711 170711Z

COUNTRY AS LONG AS THEY DO NOT HAVE OBJECTIVES CONTRARY TO THE AFGHAN REVOLUTION", ACCORDING TO TARAHI. IN RESPONSE TO RELATED QUESTION TARAHI STATED "THE ESSENTIAL AIM OF OUR GOVERNMENT IS AN IMMEDIATE CAMPAIGN AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT IN ORDER TO BRING BACK AFGHAN EMIGRANTS TO WORK IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY. THE GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE OVER A LARGE PART OF THE COUNTRY'S COMMERCE. THE YOUNG PEOPLE AND INTELLECTUALS WILL BE THE OBJECT OF PARTICULAR ATTENTION IN ORDER TO BETTER SERVE THE AFGHAN PEOPLE. BUT WE WILL CAST ASIDE THOSE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO FORGET THE NEEDS OF THEIR COUNTRY AND WHO ONLY THINK OF THEIR OWN COMFORT AND LUXURIOUS LIFE".

6. WITH REGARD TO RELIGION TARAHI CLAIMS THE REGIME HAS "A GREAT RESPECT FOR THE MOSLEM RELIGION", ADDING THAT "WE WILL NOT PREVENT ANYONE FROM PRACTICING HIS RELIGION. THE AFGHAN NATION IS A MOSLEM NATION AND IT WILL REMAIN SO. WE ARE NOT GOING TO MIX OURSELVES IN RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS BUT WE WILL RESERVE A SPECIAL PLACE FOR ISLAM IN OUR SOCIAL REFORMS".
END UNCLASSIFIED

7. COMMENT: COMPLETE ENGLISH AND FRENCH TEXTS OF

INTERVIEW BEING POUCHED DEPARTMENT AND KABUL. GENERAL
LINE CLOSELY PARALLELS ALL OTHER PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF
POLICY BY TARAHI AS REPORTED FROM KABUL, WITH HIS
REMARKS RE YOUTH AND ISLAM BEING SOMEWHAT MORE EXPLICIT.
WHILE PROFESSING REGIME'S INTERNATIONAL NON-ALIGNMENT,
TARAHI HAS HINTED AT WHAT COULD BE A MORE OMINOUS
DOMESTIC PROGRAM IN THE AREA OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC "REFORM".
SULLIVAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TEHRAN04711
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780209-0582
Format: TEL
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780547/aaaabobr.tel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4adcb39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2658693
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TARAKI INTERVIEW WITH IRANIAN REPORTED BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: PEPR, SOPN, IR, AF, (TARAKI, NOOR MOHAMMAD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4adcb39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014